

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

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SUBJECT: PROPOSED GRANTS TO COMMEMORATE ROMANIAN
CENTENNIAL

1. CIES HAS INFORMED DEPARTMENT THAT U. OF ILLINOIS IS
PLANNING A SYMPOSIUM FOR THE FALL OF 1977 TO COMMEMORATE
ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF ROMANIAN INDEPENDENCE. KEITH HITCHENS
WILL SERVE AS CONFERENCE ORGANIZER. HITCHENS PROPOSES TO
HAVE TEN/TWELVE PAPERS PRESENTED OVER THREE DAY PERIOD BY
BOTH AMERICAN AND ROMANIAN SCHOLARS. ORGANIZING COMMITTEE
RESERVES RIGHT TO NOMINATE ALL PARTICIPANTS AS ROMANIANS
DID IN ORGANIZING THEIR ACADEMY COMMEMORATION OF U.S.
BICENTENNIAL IN BUCHAREST THIS PAST SUMMER.

2. RE FUNDING, U. OF ILLINOIS WILL PROVIDE TRAVEL AND
PER DIEM FOR AMERICAN SPEAKERS. CU/EE BEING ASKED TO
FUND TWO-THREE ROMANIAN SCHOLARS FOR APPROXIMATELY ONE
MONTH EACH TO PARTICIPATE IN CONFERENCE AND THEN TO GIVE
LECTURES AT OTHER AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES. CU/EE ALSO BEING
ASKED TO FUND TWO/THREE SCHOLARS OF ROMANIAN STUDIES FROM
WESTERN EUROPE ON SIMILAR BASIS.

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3. CU/EE IS INCLINED TO SUPPORT U. OF ILLINOIS PROPOSAL,
PROVIDING EMBASSY CONCURS, ALONG RECIPROCAL LINES OF U.S.

BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION ORGANIZED BY ROMANIANS. HOWEVER, WE ARE CONCERNED THAT OTHER U.S. ORGANIZATIONS, IN ADDITION TO ILLINOIS, MAY WISH TO ORGANIZE ANALAGOUS CONFERENCES WHICH WE WILL BE ASKED TO FUND. INDEED WE HAVE ALREADY HEARD OF SIMILAR CELEBRATIONS BEING ORGANIZED AT OHIO STATE FOR NEXT SPRING. NO REQUEST FOR CU FUNDING AS YET. TO MEET THIS PROBLEM, WE WILL ENDEAVOR TO PERSUADE ILLINOIS AND OTHERS TO COORDINATE THEIR EFFORTS ON NATIONAL BASIS INSOFAR AS POSSIBLE. FURTHERMORE, ON BASIS OF RECIPROCITY WE WILL INSIST THAT, IN ADDITION TO PROVISO THAT CONFERENCE ORGANIERS RETAIN RIGHT TO NAME ROMANIAN INVITEES, ROMANIANS WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL. CU/EE FUNDS (ROMANIAN COUNTRY ALLOCATION) WOULD COVER LOCAL EXPENSES. ROMANIAN PARTICIPANTS COULD BE NOMINATED AS SHORT TERM LECTURER OR UNDER SECTION 3, ARTICLE I OF THE OFFICIAL PROGRAM.

4. IN OUR ASSESSMENT OF THIS PROJECT, IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO HAVE EMBASSY REPORT ON THE OUTCOME AND UTILITY OF THE ROMANIAN U.S. BICENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION. WE ARE CONTINUING OUR EFFORTS TO GET READ-OUT FROM U.S. PARTICIPANTS.

5. U. OF ILLINOIS PROPOSAL HAS BEEN APPROVED BY BOARD OF FOREIGN SCHOLARSHIPS ON CONDITION THAT "IT DOES NOT COME AT EXPENSE OF LONGER-TERM EXCHANGES. IF THE FUNDS WOULD OTHERWISE GO TO EXCHANGES, AT LEAST SOME OF THE PARTICIPANTS SHOULD STAY LONGER AND LECTURE OR CONDUCT RESEARCH ON A REGULAR EXCHANGE BASIS AS WELL." SINCE THERE WILL BE NO NEED FOR DIVERSION OF FUNDS FROM LONGER-TERM EXCHANGES, WE BELIEVE THIS CONDITION HAS BEEN MET.

6. EMBASSY COMMENTS REQUESTED. WILL ROMANIAN DESIRE FOR RECIPROCITY BE SATISFIED BY PROJECT ALONG ABOVE LINES OR WILL THEY EXPECT SOMETHING MORE PRESTIGIOUS ORGANIZED BY NATIONAL U.S. ORGANIZATION? KISSINGER

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